



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Fire and Life Safety Services

Sprinkler Policies Policy FS - 0206

Sprinkler System Backflow Prevention

The City of San Diego Water Utilities Department requires Cross connection devices (backflow assembly) on all fire service systems. The backflow assembly valves shall conform to the following requirements:

1. The valves shall be above ground and accessible to the Fire Department. If a chain link enclosure is erected around the backflow assembly then an access gate must be provided. If this gate is locked, it must be easily opened with bolt cutters.
2. Both valves shall have weather resistant tags that clearly identify them as sprinkler system control valves.
3. Both valves shall be monitored by a central station when the system they serve is greater than 100 sprinklers. The valves shall be locked in the open position.
4. The valves shall be located on the address side of the building.
5. The entire backflow assembly (i.e. backflow assembly and all valves and trim) shall be listed or classified for fire service use.

The Fire Department Connection (FDC) may be installed on the backflow assembly and the backflow assembly may be used in lieu of a post indicator valve when the following conditions are met:

- a. The backflow assembly is located within 40 feet of the fire access roadway, and
- b. The backflow assembly is located on the address side of the building, and
- c. A placard is provided on the assembly that clearly indicates which building it serves.

These requirements shall apply to all (including retrofits) backflow assemblies that are submitted for plan review after November 1, 2002.

Inquiries to the Water Utilities Department should be directed to the Senior Water Utilities Supervisor at (619) 527-7450.